



Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner

SALLY DRESLIN, M.S., R.N.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

February 19, 2016

Supervisor Peter Schaaphok
Town of Petersburg
Petersburgh Town Hall
PO Box 125
Petersburgh, NY 12138

Re: Petersburg Water District
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) Sampling
(T) Petersburg, Rensselaer County

Dear Supervisor Schaaphok:

The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) received notice from Tonoga, Inc. d/b/a Taconic (Taconic), identifying the presence of PFOA in groundwater at, and near, the Taconic facility in Petersburg, NY. After receiving notice, the NYS Department of Health (DOH) met at the Taconic facility with officials from the County, DEC, and representatives from Taconic. The purpose of the visit was to review groundwater sampling results collected by Taconic.

As part of its review of the PFOA contamination at Taconic, on February 13, 2016 the DOH collected samples at the Petersburg Water District. One water sample was collected from Well #2 representing untreated water and a second sample was collected from a location within the distribution system representing finished water. The DOH's Wadsworth Center analyzed the samples collected for PFOA.

This letter confirms the preliminary results of this sampling. PFOA was detected in the water sample collected from Well #2 at a concentration of 93.3 parts per trillion (ppt). PFOA was detected in the finished water sample at a concentration of 95.9 ppt. The most recent US Environmental Protection Agency advisory level for PFOA in drinking water is 400 ppt, while EPA Region 2 has indicated that Hoosick residents should not drink water at 100 ppt.

Taconic is the closest potential source of PFOA. Although these levels are below the current advisory level, out of an abundance of caution, the DOH and DEC requested, and Taconic has agreed, to immediately begin providing bottled water for drinking to customers of the Petersburg Water District. In the coming days, we will work with you regarding distribution of bottled water at a location easily accessible to the public. We are continuing to investigate the potential sources of the PFOA. Should you have questions, please contact me at (518) 402-7510.

Sincerely,

Robert Swider
Regional Environmental Health Director
Center for Environmental Health

ec: B. Krahforst - Water District Supervisor
K. Toth - Taconic
S. Fein - Whiteman Osterman & Hanna LLP
K. Anders / e-File
R. Elder - RCHD
R. Cozzy - NYSDEC Central Office
J. Quinn - NYSDEC Region 4
J. DiMartino - USEPA Region 2

Taconic spill 7/24/06

FE #5 spill

MSDS - APFO .5% TAC EPA 04199

~~30 T~~ 30T 35cy + 100 gal ePH

6/27/05

30 cy + 150 gal FE #5

MSDS TEF 192 contains APFO TAC EPA 04233

6/15/01

FE #5

TAC EPA 04484

8/3/05 Ltr to NYS DEC

9/30/05 Ltr @ to Rens County DOH